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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/848,608	05/03/2001	Andrej Gregov	249768044US1	5996
25096	7590	09/23/2005	EXAMINER	
PERKINS COIE LLP			HAQ, NAEEM U	
PATENT-SEA			ART UNIT	
P.O. BOX 1247			PAPER NUMBER	
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247			3625	

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/848,608	GREGOV ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Naeem Haq	3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-23 and 26-59 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 24, and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Response to Amendment***

This action is in response to the Applicants' amendment filed on June 29, 2005. Claims 1-59 are pending. Claims 7-23 and 26-59 were withdrawn from consideration in the previous Office Action and remain withdrawn. Claims 1-6, 24, and 25 will be considered for examination. Amendments to claims 1 and 25 are sufficient to overcome the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 101. This rejection is hereby withdrawn.

### ***Final Rejection***

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

**Claims 1-6, 24, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boucousis (US 2001/0054015 A1).**

Referring to claims 1, 24, and 25, Boucousis teaches a method and program for displaying information about products to an identified user comprising: selecting products for display based upon predicted level of interest to the user and adding information about the selected products to a display (paragraphs [0038] and [0042]-[0045]). Boucousis does not explicitly teach defining a range of dates within which the availability dates of new products fall and subsetting an inventory of products having an availability date falling within the defined date range. However, Boucousis teaches that

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his invention has an item catalogue (Figure 1, item "7") and a listing catalogue (Figure 1, item "9") which users may search by way of querying a searchable database (paragraphs [0011], [0038], and [0042]-[0045]). Moreover, Boucousis teaches that the entries within the listing catalogue include information such as "time-frame for availability" (paragraph [0042]). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have a user query the database in the invention of Boucousis on the basis of time-frame of availability. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so in order to allow a user to search a database for an item of interest (i.e. new product) as taught by Boucousis. The Examiner also notes that such a query would inherently create a subset of products from the products in the listing catalogue because the purpose of the any query is to filter a set into a smaller subset. Boucousis does not teach that the steps of defining and selecting are automatic. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to automate a manual process since it has been held that broadly providing a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity which has accomplished the same result involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Venner*, 120, USPQ 192.

Referring to claims 2-6, Boucousis does not teach a plurality of products from a multiplicity of product categories or ordering a product. However, this limitations are obvious over Boucousis. Boucousis places no restriction on the type of product information a vendor can place in the database. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to organize the

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products in the database into multiple product categories. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so in order to allow the user to more efficiently search the database in the invention of Boucousis. Furthermore, Boucousis's invention allows buyers and seller to exchange information over a network. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to allow buyers to place an order over the network. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so in order facilitate a commercial transaction over the network.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6 and 25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naeem Haq whose telephone number is (571)-272-6758. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am-5:00pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn W. Coggins can be reached on (571)-272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**Naeem Haq**, Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3625

September 19, 2005



Y. C. Gao  
former Examiner